GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2230
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001
VOICE MAIL SERVICE
RAGHUNATH JHA;SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has failed to recover licence fees from the licensees of Voice Mail Services;

(b) If so, the amount of licence fee due against each of them at present:

(c) The amount of liquidated damages demanded by the DoT from the operators of said services; and

(d) The steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to recover the fees and liquidated damages?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) to (c): The Licence Fee and Liquidated Damage charges outstanding against the Voice - Mail service operators are given below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

NAME OF THE OPERATOR	LICENCE FEE	Liquidated Damage charges
M/S MICROWAVE COMMUNICATION	36.39	1.00
M/S INDCHEM PVT. LTD.	9.00	NIL
M/S MODI KOREA TELECOM	NIL	7.00

- Interest is chargeable, in addition, up to the date of actual payment.

- A sum of Rs. 16.00 lacs towards Liquidated Damages was demanded by the DoT from the operators ofVoice Mail service, out of which only Rs. 8.00 lakhs remains unpaid.

(d) The above mentioned Licence Fee duesand Rs. 1.00 lakh towards Liquidated Damage charges are pendingbefore the courts. In regard to the Liquidated Damage charges of Rs. 7.00 lakhs, the Arbitrator`saward has been received in favour of DOT and the matter is being pursued with the Licensee.